

1. How will your party ensure the long-term recovery of the independent music sector? Will your party commit to a permanent increase of the Canada Music Fund of \$10 million, originally implemented in Budget 2019 and temporarily extended through to 2023-2024?

New Democrats respect the very important role that arts and culture play in sharing our stories and helping us connect across vast distances and different identities. We recognize that this sector has been hit hard, not only by the COVID-19 pandemic, but by changes in the media landscape and years of government inaction. New Democrats will support the arts sector with a dedicated rebuilding package to help artists and the industry bounce back from COVID. We will make sure that arts and cultural institutions like the Canada Music Fund receive stable, long-term funding. And we will recognize the special challenges faced by people who make a living in the arts and culture industry by putting in place income tax averaging for artists.

2. If elected, how will your government fight systemic racism and inequity against Indigenous, Black, and People of Colour in the independent music sector? Would your government establish robust data collection, tailored financing, and reporting frameworks to improve the provision of funding to underrepresented groups?

Everyone deserves to feel safe in their industry and in their community, and to see themselves represented in our public institutions and in the stories and songs we share with one another. But far too many Black, racialized, and Indigenous Canadians find themselves excluded or systematically discriminated against. New Democrats believe that its time to move from talk of diversity to real action on systemic racism.

An NDP government will hold digital platforms legally responsible for the content they host, requiring them to remove hate content before it can cause harm. We will review the Employment Equity Act and work with the provinces and territories to ensure that we are promoting employment equity and closing the racialized wage gap in every jurisdiction. An NDP government will also prioritize the collection of race-based data so that the government can identify gaps and track and measure progress in closing racial disparities.

3. If elected, how will your government support those who wish to return to or enter the independent music workforce? How would your government invest in targeted training and skills development for those considering a career in independent music in Canada?

Recognizing that artists and those who make a living in the arts and culture industry face special challenges, we will implement income tax averaging for artists and cultural workers. In addition to our investments in training, a New Democrat government will allow workers to quit their job to return to school and still access Employment Insurance benefits.

4. Will your party support reforms to the Canadian broadcasting legislative and regulatory regime to bring multinational tech companies under Canadian regulation and ensure they contribute to the fair remuneration of Canadian artists, creators, performers and rights holders of artistic works available on these platforms? Will your party commit to allotting funding emanating from these reforms to the Canada Music Fund or other funds related to independent music?

An NDP government will do what the Liberals failed to do and modernize the *Broadcasting Act* in order to create a level playing field between Canadian broadcasters and foreign streaming services, to rebalance negotiating power for Canadian independent producers and the Canadian cultural sector, and to ensure that Canadian programming is owned by Canadians. We will increase funding and ensure its stability for Canada's cultural touchstones, including CBC and Radio-Canada.

We will also step up to ensure that Netflix, Facebook, Google, and other digital media companies are playing by the same rules as Canadian broadcasters. That means paying corporate taxes, supporting Canadian content in both official languages, and taking responsibility for what appears on their platforms.

5. Will your party support the urgent reform of Canada's copyright framework, including the Copyright Act? Is your party in favour of the following proposed changes:

- a. amending the definition of 'sound recording' under the Act;**
- b. extending the copyright term from 50 to 70 years;**
- c. narrowing the radio royalty exemption (i.e., repealing the \$1.25 million broadcaster exemption); and**
- d. allowing the private copying regime protection to apply to both audio recording media and devices?**

New Democrats are open to working with artists, broadcasters, and other industry representatives to review our copyright legislation and to improve it wherever possible.